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19/8/03

Date

Ruth M. Valleio

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of:

Lee A. BULLA and John P. TURNER

Serial No.:

To be assigned,

Divisional of 09/696,797

Filing Date:

Even Date Herewith

For:

MICROBIAL EXOPOLYSACCHARIDE

AND USES THEREOF

Examiner: Not Assigned

Group Art Unit: Not Assigned

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Patent Application Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-referenced case, please amend the specification as

follows: